AMENDMENT

Please cancel Claim 14.

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows (a clean copy of the amended claims being attached hereto):

12. (Five Times Amended) A computer program product for use in conjunction with a commodity-based system for conducting financial transactions, the system including at least one deposit site having secure facilities for storage of a quantity of fungible precious metal, said computer program product embodied on computer-readable medium and comprising code that, when executed on a computer, causes the computer to perform the following steps:

identify a unique serial number associated with [an] one of a plurality of electronic data files;

identify an amount of [a valuable commodity] the fungible precious metal represented by said one of a plurality of electronic data files, wherein the total amount of fungible precious metal represented by the plurality of electronic data files is less than or equal to the quantity of fungible precious metal stored in the secure facilities;

identify a date associated with said electronic data file, said date indicating the date when said electronic data file was created;

verify a digital signature for authenticating said electronic data file.

13. (Twice Amended) [An electronic coin] A computer program product in accordance with claim 12 wherein said computer data are digital data.